

Mr. SCHWEIKERT. Mr. Chairman, we had a technical issue earlier, and we had reached out to my friend's office. I congratulate your staff. They understood the mechanical issue. It was a procurement timing. It has been taken care of with the amendment to the amendment, and so I want to make sure anyone that is listening, that the concerns that were being brought up from my office have been dealt with.

We now are fully in support of the gentleman's amendment.

Mr. ZINKE. Mr. Chairman, I yield to the gentleman from Alabama (Mr. ROGERS).

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Mr. Chairman, I rise in support of this amendment, and I am as frustrated as anybody that we are having to be here today.

Secretary Carter has often said, and I agree with him completely, that the nuclear deterrent priority is our number one national security mission. But, unfortunately, that rhetoric has not matched up with the decision on this issue coming from the Secretary's office.

The UH-1N fleet that is used by the Air Force Security Forces for the ICBM field security consist of Vietnam-era helos.

The UH-1N program is a case study in a failed DOD acquisition process:

The first move to replace the helos was in 2004. The Joint Staff validated a military requirement in 2010;

The Air Force canceled the replacement program in 2011;

And the SecDef recently overruled the SecAF in conducting a sole source replacement program, proposing instead a competition in 2018.

Admiral Haney, Commander, USSTRATCOM, stated in February, 2016: "Maintaining the security of our nuclear weapons requires a modern helicopter with sufficient capabilities to counter both today's and future threats. The UH-1N does not fully meet the current ICBM complex security requirements as outlined by DOD and USSTRATCOM."

We have been warned, colleagues. Let me be clear. This is the security of nuclear weapons here at home. There is no higher priority. If we are going down the path of competition, that is fine; but we have no more time to waste.

I want to urge the gentleman's amendment be adopted.

Mr. ZINKE. Mr. Chairman, I would like to say thank you to everyone for working on this bill and doing slight amendments to ensure that we have a fair and open competition but yet not delay the problem.

I think we can all understand that we need to replace the Hueys. The Hueys are inaccurate. They have been inaccurate for a long time. The acquisition process yet again, as we have identified, is broke.

So I thank my colleagues from both sides of the aisle to place this in impor-

tance. Our nuclear weapon and our arsenal needs to be protected. We face an asymmetrical enemy, and ensuring that they are safe at all times is part of what this Congress should be doing.

Mr. Chairman, I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment, as modified, offered by the gentleman from Montana (Mr. ZINKE).

The amendment, as modified, was agreed to.

Mr. THORNBERRY. Mr. Chairman, I move that the Committee do now rise.

The motion was agreed to.

Accordingly, the Committee rose; and the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. ZINKE) having assumed the chair, Mr. HULTGREN, Acting Chair of the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union, reported that that Committee, having had under consideration the bill (H.R. 4909) to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2017 for military activities of the Department of Defense and for military construction, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes, had come to no resolution thereon.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

Accordingly (at 6 o'clock and 39 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

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AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. COLE) at 11 o'clock and 51 minutes p.m.

REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR FURTHER CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 4909, NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2017

Mr. BYRNE, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 114-571) on the resolution (H. Res. 735) providing for further consideration of the bill (H.R. 4909) to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2017 for military activities of the Department of Defense and for military construction, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 4974, MILITARY CONSTRUCTION AND VETERANS AFFAIRS AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017; PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 5243, ZIKA RESPONSE APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2016; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Mr. BYRNE, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 114-572) on the resolution (H. Res. 736) providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 4974) making appropriations for military construction, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2017, and for other purposes; providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 5243) making appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2016, to strengthen public health activities in response to the Zika virus, and for other purposes; and for other purposes, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. CURBELO of Florida (at the request of Mr. MCCARTHY) for today on account of attending a family event in his district.

Mr. LATTA (at the request of Mr. MCCARTHY) for Monday, May 16 on account of the passing of his father.

Ms. MAXINE WATERS of California (at the request of Ms. PELOSI) for Monday, May 16, 2016.

SENATE BILL REFERRED

A bill of the Senate of the following title was taken from the Speaker's table and, under the rule, referred as follows:

S. 2040 An act. to deter terrorism, provide justice for victims, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

SENATE ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

The Speaker announced his signature to an enrolled bill of the Senate of the following title:

S. 1523. An act to amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to reauthorize the National Estuary Program, and for other purposes.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. BYRNE. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 11 o'clock and 53 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Wednesday, May 18, 2016, at 10 a.m. for morning-hour debate.